

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

- Sub B'*
- A'*
- {e1} 1. (Currently Amended) An integrated circuit, comprising:
a clock driver disposed on the integrated circuit;
a clock grid disposed on the integrated circuit; ~~and~~
at least one clock signal line connecting an output of the clock driver
to the clock grid, wherein the at least one clock signal line
resides at a non-exterior region of the clock grid; and
at least one interconnect connecting ~~an~~ the output of the clock driver
to the clock grid at a connection point, wherein the
connection points resides at a the non-~~peripheral~~ exterior
region of the clock grid.
- {e2} 2. (Currently Amended) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the
connection point is positioned such that a component operatively connected
to the clock grid at the connection point receives a signal from the clock
driver at the connection point, where the signal at the connection point has
less skew than if the connection point was positioned at a peripheral region
of the clock grid.
- {e3} 3. (Currently Amended) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the at
least one interconnect is arranged in a wire tree configuration.
- {e4} 4. (Currently Amended) The integrated circuit of claim 3, wherein the wire
tree configuration is balanced.
- {e5} 5. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:
an integrated circuit having a clock grid;
at least one clock driver that provides a clock signal to the clock
grid; and

a transmission structure operatively connecting an output of the at least one clock driver to at least one point on the clock grid, wherein the transmission structure resides at a non-exterior region of the clock grid; and wherein the at least one point resides at a the non-exterior region of the clock grid.

~~6~~ 6. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 5, wherein the at least one point is positioned such that a component operatively connected to the clock grid at the at least one point receives a signal from the clock driver at the at least one point, where the signal at the at least one point has less skew than if the at least one point was positioned at an exterior region of the clock grid.

~~7~~ 7. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 5, wherein the transmission structure has a wire tree configuration.

~~8~~ 8. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 7, wherein the wire tree configuration is balanced.

~~9~~ 9. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing clock skew, comprising:
sending a clock signal from a clock driver to a first component through a connection point on a clock grid; and
sending the clock signal from the clock driver to a second component through the connection point,
wherein the clock signal is propagated through a transmission structure that resides at a non-exterior region of the clock grid, and
wherein the connection point is at a the non-peripheral exterior region of the clock grid.

~~10~~ 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the clock signal

received by the first component and the second component has less skew than if the connection point was at a peripheral region of the clock grid.

~~{e11}~~ 11. (Cancelled) The method of claim 9, wherein sending the clock signal from the clock driver to the first component and the second component occurs through a transmission structure, wherein the transmission structure comprises interconnect that connect the clock driver to the connection point on the clock grid.

~~{e12}~~ 12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~ 9, wherein the transmission structure is balanced.

~~{e13}~~ 13. (Currently Amended) A transmission structure for driving a signal onto a clock grid, comprising:

an interconnect connecting a clock driver to the clock grid,

wherein the transmission structure resides at a non-exterior region of the clock grid, and

wherein the interconnect connects the clock driver to the clock grid at a connection point residing at a non-exterior region of the clock grid.

~~{e14}~~ 14. (Currently Amended) The transmission structure of claim 13, wherein the transmission structure is balanced.